



11-1890


Ursinus College Bulletin Vol. 7, No. 2

Augustus W. Bomberger
Ursinus College

Harvey E. Kilmer
Ursinus College

Irvin F. Wagner
Ursinus College

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Recommended Citation

Bomberger, Augustus W.; Kilmer, Harvey E.; and Wagner, Irvin F., "Ursinus College Bulletin Vol. 7, No. 2" (1890). *Ursinus College Bulletin, 1885-1902*. 60.
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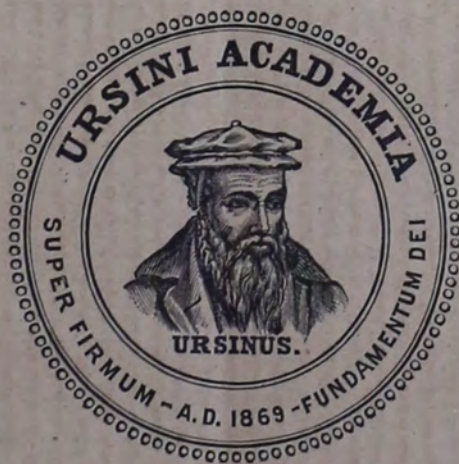


Ursinus College



Bulletin.

VOLUME SEVEN, NUMBER TWO.



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Commencement
Class Day
Society
Wedding
Invitations.

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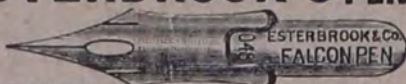
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URSINUS COLLEGE BULLETIN.

VOLUME VII.

NOVEMBER, 1890.

NUMBER 2.

Ursinus College Bulletin.

PUBLISHED TEN TIMES A YEAR, ONCE A MONTH FROM
OCTOBER TO JULY INCLUSIVE.

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Matter for publication (including literary articles, items
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and welfare), will be gladly received from all students,
alumni and professors of the institution.

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REFINING fires of trial and sorrow have been recognized as the truest developers of character, the surest and most thorough generators of well-tempered moral strength. Their practical use by Providence from time immemorial for these very ends, has repeatedly demonstrated their effectiveness. Yet their real purpose is often misinterpreted. Moreover, men are by nature blind, and consequently refuse to see and acknowledge beneficent forces, even when the brightness of history throws upon them a clear and unmistakable light. URSINUS COLLEGE will endeavor to let no such scales shut off her vision

of the value of the influences that have been working within her for the past few months. The hand of the refiner is a better shaper of destiny than the uncertain fingers of them that mould in clay. The purifying flame is that supplied with the fuel of love, rich and exhaustless; not the one which rises for a little and floats in mid air but to vanish, and contains no essential heat. Healthy growth comes by the pruner's knife, and increased power by the welder's hammer. Our beloved Alma Mater had been already too well trained not to profit by the present lesson. It has fixed her principles more firmly and then thrown her reliance with fuller confidence upon *their* supporting sinews. Her aim is now the plainer set, and if she ultimately falls short of its attainment, the cause will be that she forgot the teaching of eighteen-ninety.

* *

The current fall term of the college has set another high-water mark in attendance. The ratio of increase is not in any way extraordinary, but it is steady and sure and shows a resumption of the march of progress in this direction that has been going on during several preceding years. The force of instructors has now been made fully adequate to the number of students, the vacant places in the Faculty being exceedingly well supplied. The cloud of bereavement has had its silver lining; and even the undertone of sorrow that has pervaded everything during the term has been productive of good result in deeper earnestness and more faithful attention to duty.

The BULLETIN desires to testify in print to the unreserved cordiality with which URSINUS received into her halls Professor Balliet and the honored ex-President of Heidelberg. The greeting in both cases was spontaneous and unmistakable in warmth and gladness, and by sincerest arts of hospitality the new-comers were quickly made to feel at home.

THE NEW COLLEGE YEAR.

THE DEMISE OF PRESIDENT BOMBERGER.

For twenty years Dr. Bomberger stood as a tower of strength at the head of URSINUS COLLEGE. To the public he was the most conspicuous exponent of its life and character. In the internal work of the institution he was equally impressive. His superior intellectual endowments, his generous sympathies, and his graces of manner enabled him to fill a large place with dignity and power.

His response to the exactions of daily duty was singularly faithful. At all seasons and under all circumstances his familiar figure would be seen emerging from Zwingli-hof at the first tap of the morning call to prayers, and with rapid step hastening up the avenue, first to escort the young ladies to their place in chapel, and then, with a fervor and unction which few men possess, to lead the devotions. His devout reading of the inspired Word, his sonorous voice in song, and the warmth and inspiration of his prayers seemed to have become a part of the very life of the institution. One could not have imagined in advance how the college could gather for worship and repair to its daily tasks without his leadership.

During the first weeks of the term his absence was manifestly felt. The students moved about the halls and entered chapel with quiet tread. Though seldom uttered, the thought of his demise was written on every face and movement. More eloquent indeed than words was this silent tribute of the college community to the memory of its departed chief. It betokened the endearing impress of lofty and forceful character upon daily associates. It is the visible pledge that the life and spirit of Dr. Bomberger shall never depart from the institution. Throughout the buildings and over the campus, in all his wonted places and favorite retreats the vision of the man lingers. His ideas and aspirations, his reproofs and encouragement, continue to check and cheer those for whom he toiled. His master spirit is ingrained in the very fibre of the College, and may its texture never fade or fail.

VICE-PRESIDENT SUPER ACTING PRESIDENT.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors held immediately after the decease of President Bomberger, the Rev. H. W. Super, D. D., who has served the college as Vice President since its opening in 1870, was requested to take the charge of the institution and to attend to all the duties pertaining to the Presidency. Dr. Super kindly consented to accept the additional responsibilities, and has discharged them with uniform acceptance and success since the opening of the term. He leads the morning devotions, presides at the meetings of the Faculty, supervises the internal work

of the institution, and attends to all the correspondence pertaining to the admission of students, and the general interests of the college. His experience and attainments alike fit him for the position, and the instruction and discipline of URSINUS will not suffer as long as he is at the helm.

That his duties may not be laborious the Board has given him the privilege of assigning to other hands any classroom work he may desire to relinquish; but thus far he has heroically stood by all the work of his department. His health has been vigorous, and his zeal for work seems to have only increased under the stimulus of additional burdens.

ADDITIONS TO THE FACULTY.

THE REV. G. W. WILLARD, D. D., LL. D.

The hand of Providence seems to be signally manifest in the shaping of events to the advantage of URSINUS COLLEGE when men feared that a perilous crisis was upon her. In advance the loss of Dr. Bomberger appeared irreparable. But the Lord, who has watched over this child of Providence from the beginning, has not only made it possible for Dr. Good, the most widely-influential young man in the Church, to give to it his timely and efficient services, but has also allowed a course of events which relieved the veteran college-manager and President, Dr. G. W. Williard, of Heidelberg, Tiffin, Ohio, of the post at which he had stood with honor and success for twenty-four years; so that he, too, in turn has agreed to give the days of vigor and activity that may yet be accorded him, to the development and permanent endowment of URSINUS.

The transfer of Dr. Williard from Heidelberg to URSINUS, when looked upon from an inner point of view, is both natural and easy. He has always been in pronounced sympathy with the position of URSINUS on the questions that agitated the Church for a generation past. Indeed his devotion to the principles upon which URSINUS COLLEGE is founded has been characterized by a firmness and singleness of aim that have not been surpassed by any other. He labored for their maintenance and establishment, 'tis true, in another section of the Church; but for the same end he toiled, and in the same Church. He sought to equip an institution of learning that would perpetuate the faith of the fathers and be an honor to the Reformed Church. In transferring his sphere of activity to URSINUS he does not change his aims and purposes; only the geographical centre of his labors. Whatever success he may achieve here will be as great a credit to himself and as lasting an honor to our common Zion.

The acquisition of Dr. Williard is a challenge to the interest and zeal of the friends of URSINUS. It is a call to them all to come up to the help of the institution at a time when tender memories are quickening their sympathies, when the sacrifices in which its foundations were laid are calling for the payment of what is due them, when the opportunities for permanent and immediate success are the most promising. His knowledge of what is needed to build up a college, gained by actual experience, will help to guide our efforts with wisdom and discretion. His untiring zeal and resistless energy will electrify our activities, that the projects

for the enlargement of the facilities and work of the college may all be realized.

Dr. Williard occupies the chair of Apologetics in the Theological Department, and teaches Ethics in the college. In addition he will take an active part in the financial development of the institution.

His arrival at URSINUS to formally assume his duties was heralded with much good-feeling. The students turned out in a body and as he stepped from the train received him royally with hearty cheers. They then formed in procession and followed his carriage to its destination, the residence of Vice-President Super, their progress up through the town being marked by much enthusiasm and many stirring renditions of the "college yell." At Dr. Super's gate the guest of the occasion paused a moment and in a few well-turned sentences thanked the boys for the warmth of their greeting and assured them of his deep appreciation of their interest.

THE REV. JAMES I. GOOD, D. D.

The same guiding hand of Providence also brought to pass the conjunction of circumstances which made it possible for the Board of Directors to secure the services of the Rev. J. I. Good, D. D., until November 1st pastor of Heidelberg Church, Philadelphia. Dr. Good devotes two full days, Tuesday and Thursday, to the studies of which Dr. Bomberger had charge in the Theological Department, besides giving a course of lectures in Reformed Church History. The time given to these branches is slightly increased under the present arrangement. Dr. Good has greatly pleased the students

by the vigor and thoroughness of his teaching, and the qualities which gave him power over the people in the pastorate are asserting themselves in his influence over the young men.

OTHER ADDITIONS.

The loss of Professor Francis Hendricks, who gave instruction in Old Testament History and Theology, brought about a transfer of all the Old Testament studies to the Rev. Prof. George Stibitz, Ph. D., and this increase of his duties necessitated his relinquishing all the Latin classes below the Junior year. Thus the way was opened for the calling of a regular Professor of Latin and History. The choice fell upon Prof. N. M. Balliet, A. M., of Palatinate College, who has had many years' experience in teaching and who has given the four years since his graduation to instruction in Latin and the study and application of the inductive method in its teaching. Prof. Balliet's career at Myerstown had been very successful. He was regarded as the best teacher in the Faculty of Palatinate, and President Shæffer manifested his unwillingness to part with his ablest assistant by repeated offers to retain him.

In the Academic Department the force has been strengthened by the addition of Prof. A. L. Custer, M. E., a graduate of one of the Normal Schools of the State, who served as Principal of the Abington High School last year. Prof. Custer is Vice-Principal of the Department and gives instruction in the English branches.

THE FALL TERM.

The current session of the college, which marks the beginning of the aca-

demical year 1890-'91, was formally opened the first week in September with the delivery of Professor Peters' address, given in substance in another part of this issue. The term has progressed as it began, with every evidence of increasing prosperity. The attendance of students has once again reached a total larger than ever before attained at this time of the year in the history of the college. Especially noteworthy is the steady continuance of vigorous growth in the Collegiate Department, the Senior Class numbering sixteen, the Junior Class fourteen, the Sophomore Class ten, and the Freshman Class twenty-six, with prospects exceedingly bright for even better figures for the entering collegiate class next year. The Theological Department has received corresponding additions of strength. The entire number of *new* students in all Departments is about fifty, while the proportion of those of last year who have returned is unusually large.

During the term a spirit of deeper earnestness and more lively and progressive activity seems to have taken hold on the entire college community in many different directions, and the general character of the beginning made by the institution strongly presages a distinctively prosperous and effective year.

THE LITERARY SOCIETIES.

SCHAFF SOCIETY.

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

The twentieth anniversary of the Schaff Society will be held in the College chapel on Thursday evening, December 18th. The literary portion of

the programme will be as follows: Salutatory, H. Ely Myers, '93; Orations, William H. Erb, '93, J. M. S. Isenberg, '93, and Howard M. Wright, '93; Eulogy, William H. Knipe, '91; Schaff Oration, Irvin C. Williams, '91. The music will be furnished by the students of the college. The general public is cordially requested to attend the exercises.

HON. T. M. TAYLOR'S LECTURE.

On Tuesday evening, September 23d, Hon. T. M. Taylor lectured in the chapel under Schaff auspices, on the subject "Ingersoll's Gospel Dissected." The weather "was all that could be desired, and the audience was large, attentive and appreciative. The lecturer was in good condition, and took Mr. Ingersoll's gospel to pieces, and then examined each piece under the glass of common sense." The method was very effective and its results were strongly convincing to all who were present. The lecture occupied about an hour and a quarter in delivery, and the speaker's auditors dispersed, pleased and profited by what they had heard.

OTHER SOCIETY NEWS.

The other Societies of the college, the Zwinglian, Olevian and Ebrard, are all in an active, healthy state. Reports received concerning the details of their work during the term and their condition at the time of writing cannot be published in this issue because of lack of space but must be postponed to the December number. It is gratifying to know that each is still following out clearly the peculiar lines of its mission, with excellent results.

NEWS ABOUT COLLEGE.

"BOMBERGER MEMORIAL HALL."

The college authorities have resolved to name the new building toward the erection of which Mr. Robert Patterson, of Philadelphia, has generously subscribed \$25,000, "Bomberger Memorial Hall." Its erection was projected at his suggestion and one-half the cost secured by his influence. The plan of operations was adopted, and a handsome beginning towards recuring the second half of its cost was made, under his leadership.

His death occurring at the beginning of the consummation of his cherished hopes, it is highly fitting that the building should bear his name. The college itself being the outgrowth of his faith and heroism, it is proper that his name should be forever linked with the first material improvement in the equipment of the institution.

Again, it will be a sacred privilege, which all his friends will hasten to embrace, to take part in erecting a monument to the memory of the first President of URSINUS and the honored champion of the faith of the Reformed Church.

THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR HENDRICKS.

The death of Rev. Francis Hendricks, A. M., professor of Hebrew, History and Biblical Archæology, which occurred at Philadelphia, early in August, during the summer vacation, and only few days prior to that of President Bomberger, occasioned deep sorrow and regret among both professors and students of the college and many others identified with its interests by whom the departed professor was well known and highly

respected. Especially, however, in the restricted academic circle has his loss been felt sincerely, for here, in the course of his three years' connection with the college, he had endeared himself to all with whom he had come in contact.

He was elected to the Faculty in the summer of 1887 to fill the place made vacant by the resignation of Rev. Prof. E. M. Landis, and continued regularly in the faithful performance of the duties of his chair until the close of the last collegiate year. His scholarly attainments and ability as a careful, patient teacher won for him the warm appreciation of pupils and associate professors. Though a member of the Presbyterian Church he nevertheless took a hearty, lively interest in the distinctive mission of URSINUS. He was a graduate of Union College, New York, of the class of 1848, and received his master's degree from that institution four years later. He labored hard in his own denomination and was honored by it, being at the time of his death secretary of one of the Philadelphia Presbyteries.

The common feeling of sorrow manifest about college at the death of Professor Hendricks found worthy expression in the adoption of the following resolutions:

BY THE THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS.

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Almighty Providence to take from us by death Rev. Francis Hendricks, late Professor of History and Biblical Archæology, an able, wise and beloved teacher and guide; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the theological classes of URSINUS COLLEGE, humbly submit to the allwise decree of our Heavenly Father, in removing from our midst one who always commended himself to all who were under his tuition as a most faithful instructor and an exemplary Christian: recognizing his removal from us as a special act of Divine Providence, we give glory to Him, re-

membering that "whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth," and that all things are made to work out an exceeding great reward, in those upon whom He lays His rod of affliction:

Resolved, That we deeply mourn the loss sustained by us and the institution which he so faithfully served, of a most excellent friend and teacher:

Resolved, That we heartily sympathize with the family and friends of the deceased in their sad bereavement and commend them to the trust and confidence of the Almighty Father, who doeth all things well and for the good of all His creatures.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the departed, and that they be published in the URSINUS COLLEGE BULLETIN and in the various papers of the Reformed and Presbyterian Churches.

Ursinus College,
September, 1890.

H. A. I. BENNER,
ERNEST CLAPP,
C. H. BRANDT,
Committee.

BY THE COLLEGIATE STUDENTS.

WHEREAS, It has pleased our Heavenly Father in His infinite love to remove from our midst our highly esteemed and honored professor, the Rev. Francis Hendricks, A. M.; and,

WHEREAS, By his untiring efforts, and devoted zeal displayed for our welfare, he has endeared himself toward us; therefore be it

Resolved, That while we deeply feel the finger of God, and realize this loss, we submit ourselves to Him "who ruleth all things."

Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt sympathy and kind condolences to his bereaved wife and sorrowing acquaintances in the loss of a loving husband and a kind friend, and commend them to the great Comforter for consolation in their deep distress.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family and that they be published in *The Presbyterian* and the URSINUS COLLEGE BULLETIN.

Ursinus College,
September, 1890.

HORACE T. WAGNER, '91.
FRANK H. FISHER, '91.
J. ABNER HUNSICKER, '92.
EDWARD F. WEIST, '93.
H. ELY MYERS, '93.
Committee.

Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

LECTURE BY THEODORE F. CLARK.

On Monday evening, November 3d, 1890, under the auspices of the College

Y. M. C. A., Rev. Theodore F. Clark, of Brooklyn, delivered a lecture in the Chapel on "A Knapsack Tour Around the World." The night was fair and the attendance large. The lecture is one of a series of three, and dealt with that part of the tour extending from New York City to India. It was highly instructive and enjoyable and all felt fully compensated for being present.

An additional attraction was the music of the evening, furnished by the College Orchestra, under the direction I. C. Williams, '91, and the Glee Club, conducted by its energetic and efficient leader, Professor Balliet. The selections which these two organizations rendered displayed a high degree of proficiency and called forth hearty applause, and the Y. M. C. A. extends them its sincere thanks for their services.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

At a meeting of the Association held at the College on September 5th last, the following resolutions relative to the death of J. Manton Mensch, of the class of '91, the particulars of which were published in full in the Mid-Summer BULLETIN, were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Almighty God in his infinite wisdom has taken from our midst our beloved brother and faithful co worker, J. Manton Mensch; and

WHEREAS, by his genial companionship, his courteous demeanor and his christian conduct he won the hearts of all the members of this association; therefore, be it,

Resolved, That while we deeply mourn the loss of a Christian brother, we bow in humble and loving submission to Him "Who doeth all things well," and whose unbounded wisdom is beyond our widest comprehension.

Resolved, That by the death of our young brother we are reminded of the uncertainty of life: That we shall ever cherish his memory, follow his Christian example, and with redoubled energy and zeal strive to win young men for Christ.

Resolved, That we heartily sympathize with the bereaved family in the loss of a dutiful son and loving brother, and would commend them for consolation and support to the Great Physician who healeth all wounds and giveth the oil of joy for weeping.

Resolved, That these resolutions be sent to the family, and published the URSINUS COLLEGE BULLETIN.

C. D. YOST,
P. E. HEIMER,
H. E. JONES,
Committee.

OTHER Y. M. C. A. ITEMS.

Messrs. J. M. S. Isenberg, '93, and J. H. Watts, '94, members of the college association, represented URSINUS at the State Convention of the Y. M. C. A., held at Danville, October 24-27, 1890.

The Week of Prayer for Colleges, November 10th-15th, was duly observed at URSINUS, evening meetings being held throughout the week, in which Prof. James I. Good, D. D., Rev. Chas. H. Coon, '77, of Philadelphia, and Rev. Francis C. Yost, '76, of Phoenixville, participated. The meetings were well attended and deeply interesting and profitable.

The regular Wednesday evening services of the Y. M. C. A. have been very successful this term. The number present each week is fully as large as ever before known, and the spirit manifested is sincere and earnest.

ENTERPRISE IN MUSIC AT URSINUS.

Advertising in business is a great help toward success. This is a trite observation, but none the less true; and at the beginning of the present scholastic year its truth was recognized by the determination of the Faculty of the college to continue to follow it out to the best possible advantage.

The first outgrowth of the idea this term was the Ursinus College 'Glee Club. Professor Balliet had very successfully conducted a glee club at Palatinate, and when he came to URSINUS and found her without one, he resolved to try to supply the deficiency. After speaking of the matter, and thinking over it, he selected twelve students as material from which to form his organization. It was like taking the diamonds in the rough and trying to polish them. Here a little rubbing and there a little chipping; constantly, patiently working to bring forth the hidden beauty. It was hard work at first both for the singers and for the leader. But great progress has been made and now it is seen that much was lost by the failure to make an earlier start. Engagements began to come in from various sources and to meet these properly it was necessary that the club should be supplied with dress suits. To bring this about a committee was appointed, money secured and suits purchased. Thus a great stride forward in the direction of good music was finally taken.

But as one idea begets another, so that of a Glee Club brought a second enterprise into being and the Ocarina Club was formed. This club consists at present, of four ocarinas, two violins and a guitar. Its performers have been crowded so that they could not make as great progress as was expected or commit the music to be rendered. But they can play, and they play well.

But the movement did not end even here. One more project was embraced. It was that the orchestra should be revived and reorganized, and this too was promptly taken hold of, so that now

the Ursinus College Orchestra is again alive and means business. In some respects it is better equipped than last year. There has not been much new material introduced, but a change of positions has taken place the good effects of which were seen at once. I. C. Williams, '91, is leader and fills the place well, while the new music which has been procured abounds in excellent selections.

These three organizations are therefore working harmoniously for a praiseworthy end. Great good is expected as a result and, from the way the members of each body are taking hold, there can be no doubt but that success will crown their efforts. The final step in the arrangements was to procure large group pictures of each body to be used for sending ahead as advance advertising matter. The president of the three organizations is Professor Balliet. All communications should be addressed to him or to Howard M. Wiest, '92, the Business Manager. Rev. Thomas F. Clark, of Brooklyn, says of the Glee Club:

"While at URSINUS COLLEGE I had the rare pleasure of listening to the College Glee Club and I most heartily commend it to committees who are planning for popular entertainments. *They will please any audience.*"

The club made its first appearance in the Opera House at Lehigh, Penna., on Friday evening, November 14th, before a large audience, and scored a complete success. On Tuesday evening, December 9th, it sings at Norristown. Its other engagements at present are, Phoenixville, December 16th and the Schaff Anniversary, December 18th. The make-up of the club is as follows: Leader, Prof. Balliet; first

tenors, Middleton, '92, Bergey, '92, Wiest, '93; second tenors, Wiest, '92, Wright, '92, Kline, '93; first basses, Spangler, '90, Miller, '91, Kalbach, '92; second basses, Small, '92, Welsh, '93, Morganthall, '94.

BROTHERHOOD OF ANDREW AND PHILIP.

The URSINUS Chapter (Number 27) of this organization has received a number of new members and is in a flourishing condition. Its officers are, President, Brandt, '90; Vice Presidents, Wotring, '89, and Isenberg, '93; Recording Secretary, Yost, '91; Corresponding Secretary, Walter, '94; and Treasurer, Spangler, '90. The chapter received its charter early in the term.

The annual convention of the Brotherhood which was held in Philadelphia in September last, was attended by the following delegates from the college chapter: I. C. Fisher, '89; C. Henry Brandt, '90; Irvin F. Wagner, '91; J. M. S. Isenberg, '93; Horace T. Wagner, '91; Harvey E. Kilmer, '90; C. D. Yost, '91; Andrew Walter, '94; and W. G. Welsh, '93.

SENIOR ORATIONS.

The first series of senior orations, as delivered this term by the class of '91, was given in the order that follows. The subject of each speech is also published: G. W. Filbert, Jr., "Public Spirit;" F. H. Fisher, "The Indians in America;" P. E. Heimer, "The Influence of Catholicism on our Free School System;" W. H. Knipe, "National Luxury Leads to National Ruin;" F. B. Miller, "Nobility of Labor;" H. E. Jones, "Pyramids;" Miss Lillie Preston, "Trust Not Appearances;" Miss Ada E. Schwenk, "Self-Reliance;" W. R.

Smith, "The Age of the Founders;" Miss Hallie R. Vanderslice, "A Business Education;" I. C. Williams, "Joan of Arc;" H. T. Wagner, "Vocation;" I. F. Wagner, "The Influence of Music;" J. G. Francis, "The Coming Naturalist;" Miss May Kratz, "Fashion;" C. D. Yost, "The Inquisition in the Netherlands."

THE FIRE AT THE COLLEGE.

On Sunday morning, October 19th, a fire occurred at the College, which but for fact that it was providentially discovered in good time and was promptly combatted by the energetic and heroic efforts of students and neighbors, would in all probability have destroyed the entire college buildings. It broke out in the room of students Land and Small, on the third floor of the West Wing, while nearly everybody about college was absent at church, and was believed to have been caused by a curtain blowing against the stove in the room and igniting. The alarm was immediately given to the congregation of Trinity church, near by, where Professor Stibitz, who occupied the pulpit that morning, was in the midst of his discourse. The services were at once discontinued, the audience, including about fifty students, hurried over in a body to the buildings, a bucket-brigade was quickly formed and after a half hour's hard work the flames were finally extinguished.

The entire loss was but trifling, amounting to between two and three hundred dollars, the college being fully insured against that part of the damage which it sustained. The occupants of the room of course found substantially everything in it belonging them completely destroyed, but their misfortune

was made good by purses of \$60 and \$50, raised by students and friends of the college in the one case and voted by the Executive Committee in the other. Within two weeks or more all traces of the fire were removed. The recollection of it, however, should be kept constantly alive among the students, especially during the winter months, as an incentive to the exercise of diligent care to guard against circumstances which could bring about another similar accident that might be far less fortunate in its outcome.

THE ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING.

The evening of September 15th of the current term, W. U. Helffrich of the class of '93, a son of Rev. Dr. William A. Helffrich, of Fogelsville, accidentally shot himself while handling a twenty-two calibre pistol which had not been used for so long a time that it had become considerably rusted, and which he supposed was not loaded. The accident occurred in the west wing of the college in the presence of two other students. The ball, which was small in size, by rare good fortune struck the breast-bone of the young man and, presumably, glanced off to the side, so that the injury was not extremely painful at the time it happened and in the end did not prove serious. A probing of the wound failed to locate the bullet and it was never extracted. Notwithstanding, under the care of his brother, Dr. Calvin Helffrich, a former student of the college, who has been a surgeon in active practice for some years, and a local physician, the victim in a comparatively short time recovered from it entirely. Nevertheless, as in the case of the fire above referred to

which nearly proved so serious, the experience of the young man contains a familiar lesson it would be well to profit by.

MEMORIAL WINDOW IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT BOMBERGER.

At a meeting held in the chapel during the latter part of November the students of the college resolved to place in Trinity Church, Collegeville, which is undergoing extensive alterations and repairs, a memorial window in honor of President Bomberger. The window will be the contribution of the students exclusively and will form a fitting testimonial of affection for their departed instructor and friend.

COLLEGE ATHLETICS.

Throughout the present session the leading attractions in the athletic field at URSINUS have been base-ball and football. The latter is but a recent bidder for popularity at the college, and the time accorded it has been given almost entirely to practical study of the rules and points of the game and training. The former, however, is an old friend whose active companionship has been much sought this Fall, numerous inter-class and other games in the sport having been played since the session opened. Most interesting among these games was the series between the Freshman and Preps, in which the former suffered disastrous defeat, and a fine match between the regular college nine and the Alert team of Norristown, on September 20th, in which the score as follows:

Ursinus	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0—3
Alert	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0—0

PROFESSOR PETERS' ILLNESS.

As early as the second week of the term Professor Peters was compelled to leave college for his home by reason of a serious attack of nervous prostration. After being absent a few days he deemed himself sufficiently recovered and resumed his duties, but quickly suffered a relapse and found it necessary to return again to Slatington, where he has been ever since. We are informed, however, that good treatment and much needed rest are effectively restoring his over-worked system to full health and strength and that he will be able to take up his place once more with the opening of the Winter Term. During his illness he has had the warm sympathy of his associates in the Faculty and the students in general, as well as their continued hopes for the speedy recovery through which he is now finally passing.

GENERAL TOPICS.

THE PROBLEM OF EVOLUTION.

[Extracts from an Address delivered before the Faculty and Students of URSINUS COLLEGE, by Rev. Prof. M. Peters, A. M., at the opening of the Fall Session of 1890.]

In the goodness of a beneficent Providence we stand at the opening of another term, and at the beginning of a new year of scholastic labor. Let us thank God that he has given us minds to know Him, hearts to love and to praise Him, for all that he does for us in our various careers of life and work. We bow in humble submission to the dispensation of His Providence, to the summons of His voice that has come to some of our number during the vacation, and has suddenly called them

from these busy and active scenes. We as followers of the Divine Son can say submissively, "Thy will be done." May we ever affectionately cherish the memory of our dear departed friends.

The theory that is to claim our attention as the main subject of my opening address, is not the product of one brain; but taking root far back in the past was it gradually developed until the time when the work of Darwin appeared. Since that epoch-making period the question has assumed widespread proportions, and there have been stout defenders both for and against what is now generally called the "Darwinian Hypothesis." The watchwords of Darwin were: "The Survival of the Fittest," "Natural Selection," and "The Struggle for Existence."

We may say that his whole work was developed along these lines. His wide observation and his fascinating powers of description made his book at once popular, and it gained access to a wide circle of readers.

When a medical student in Edinburgh University the lecture room was a very gloomy and unattractive place to him, and he preferred to spend his time on the shores of the Firth of Forth with the fishermen in examining and collecting specimens of sea fishes. He served as naturalist in the scientific expedition that was fitted out by the English government, and for three years he was on the "Beagle;" at the same time he was making accurate observations in the different parts of the world to which he sailed.

It is said that the theory first dawned upon him when he made his observations upon the various forms of life in the southern part of South America. During a course of investigation that

continued through twenty years, he confirmed his theory, and the results appeared in 1859 in the book called the "Origin of Species." If he had stopped with the theory here, the antagonism to his work would, perhaps, have been prevented; but what he had kept back others carried out to logical conclusions, and these were then given by himself in the "Descent of Man."

The theory of Darwin does not seek to account for the origin of life; and is, therefore, not necessarily Atheistic. He makes, at least, four primordial germs each the basis of vegetable and animal life; or there may be but one. Having these as a starting point, by differentiation, or the tendency in the organism to variation in the forms of life, he deduces all the varieties of vegetable and animal life and reaches the final culmination in man. According to this theory there is in reality no such thing as species. There is no permanency of type, but a constant tendency to vary; and thus the lower forms of life are ever changed into higher forms by a process of transmutation. In the struggle for existence only the fittest survive. The principle of "Natural Selection" is only another way by which he expresses the "Survival of the Fittest." On some of the Malay Islands, for example, there are wingless insects. These were insects with wings in the first place, but they were exposed to winds and blown into the sea; and in the course of time, by a process of natural selection or adaptation to environment, a race of wingless insects was formed. All that Darwin wants for his theory is time enough it may be millions or billions of years, for these adaptations and transmutations to work themselves out, if left to

themselves. Of course man is the culmination in this process of evolution. His progenitor is the anthropoid ape; or he has come by a series of gradations from the most primeval form of life.

Darwin does not account for the primordial germs. Others who have followed him have made the theory thoroughly Atheistic. They have made spontaneous generation the father of the germs, and thus have dispensed with any creative agency in the beginning, and, consequently, with a creator. In this they have become very pronounced and dogmatic. They assume that matter is eternal, and that in matter is contained the potency of all life. As thus sketched without minute details we have the theory before us which the science that claims to be the most advanced knowledge offers to us at the present day for acceptance.

The theory is unscientific because it lacks the very evidence that is necessary to establish it and to make it worthy of acceptance. The nebular hypothesis explains fairly well the beginning and formation of the universe. Newton's theory of gravitation supplied the demonstration to Kepler's laws, and it accounts for all the phenomena that come under it; and it is, therefore, a scientifically established law. Darwin's theory needs the missing links, and none of these have been discovered. The most ancient fossil man was not different from the most perfect men of the present, perhaps rather superior. The geological record has given us nothing to show that such a gradual transmutation from the lower to the higher forms has taken place; and the missing link between the most manlike ape and man has not been discovered,

and in all probability never will be. The advocates of the theory say that the connecting links have been destroyed, or that they have not yet been discovered in the geological records. But it is very strange and singular that none of them should have come to light thus far. The theory is weak and untenable just where it needs the strongest evidence and demonstration to support it. Besides those above mentioned other difficulties inherent in the theory are almost endless. How do we account for the mind of man, the phenomena of conscience and the gift of language. These, they say, are reached by the same principle of adaptation to environment and by a process of development.

They say man's intelligence differs only in degree from that of the most intelligent animals. We can, perhaps, more readily reach a proper conclusion here by a study of man's nature as it now is. The great difference between man and the animals lies in the powers of his mind. He is a self-conscious being, conscious of all his thoughts and acts. It is an intelligence that differs in kind, and that can never be bridged over by any process of development from lower animals. It forms an impassible barrier between man and the brute. Some animals, especially, manifest extraordinary powers of instinct, but they never get beyond that. They can never attain the powers of abstract thought, or put ideas together in their natural, logical relations. How do we know that the contrary is not the case? We know it because there is no manifestation of it, and hence the power must be wanting. They have no language by which they can perform difficult computations, and language

is the consequence of thought, and abstract ideas are the indispensable preliminaries to language. It is even maintained by Alfred Russell Wallace that animals do not possess instinct. The bird in the construction of its nest never makes any improvement, nor the ant in its hill, nor the bee in its comb. The beaver follows his progenitors in the construction of his dam and does not advance beyond them. Mr. Wallace argues that whatever skill is shown by animals here has come by imitation and is not due to instinct. The sound of the dinner bell immediately suggests to us the image of food, and the sight of an umbrella the coming of rain. These images persist if we endeavor to expel them from our minds. No animal has the power of associating ideas with their appropriate objects. Bunker Hill monument would never suggest to them the battle that was fought there; nor could they ever succeed in thus associating Plymouth Rock with the landing of the Pilgrims.

Man and his origin must be accounted for in some other way. The gulf here is too impassable, and can never be bridged over. He is of a different order of creation. He was created in God's image with powers to know, love, serve and obey Him. He is the crowning work of all God's creations. With the coming of man upon the scene there is ushered in the new era of progress and advancement. Human history begins with him. All that we have attained in the enlightenment and civilization of the present day is due to his indomitable spirit and will. We do not believe in the blind mechanical process of the world's creation; but we do believe that God's guiding hand was in all, and continues over all

his created works. He created matter, He created life, He created man, the highest of all. To each of these He gave His laws. These are permanent and unchangeable, but under His guiding control. As soon as we acknowledge the existence of a personal Creator difficulties vanish. Without Him absolute chaos would forever remain, silent and meaningless. Law implies a law-giver; and from the beauty and order manifested in the world we reach up in our thoughts to an intelligent Designer, who has planned the whole.

With the materialistic conception of creation, revelation can never come into harmony or agreement. I believe there is perfect harmony between God's two records—His written word and His created works. And, therefore, we will not accept any hypothesis that seeks to dispense with a creator and is repulsive to all the cherished hopes and aspirations of our spirits.

We have stated before that there is no scientific evidence of any transformation of species such as Darwin claims. No new species have been created in the present era. The four great divisions of the animal kingdom are clear and distinct; and the outlines of creation are given to us in grand and simple language in the first chapter of Genesis. In this record the writer probably gives to us in prophecy under the guidance of God's spirit more than his own intelligence grasped or apprehended. Just as the prophecies of Daniel and Isaiah and other seers in the Old Testament reveal to us far more of the life and work of the Son of Man than their own spirit dimly foresaw.

There is a successive realization of God's prophecies in the history of knowledge and in the redemptive grace

of God's work in the Church of Jesus Christ. In support of what may be termed the biblical or miraculous view of creation I refer you to Prof. Guyot's work on "Creation, or Biblical Cosmogony in the Light of Modern Science," and also to Prof. Dana's works. Both of these eminent scientists are in substantial agreement and interpret the teaching of Geology as in accord with the Mosaic account of creation. Both of them are believers in the Bible and in Christianity. Prof. Virchow, of Berlin, one of the greatest specialists in Germany, has this to say of Darwin's theory: "Wir können es nicht lehren, wir können es nicht als eine Errungenschaft der Wissenschaft bezeichnen das der Mensch von Affen oder von irgend einem anderen Thiere abstamme." Bacon has well said, "Scientia est potentia." But he defined knowledge, and the knowledge he meant was not speculative knowledge or the discussing of problems, but objective, actual, knowledge.

Prof. Dana says: "We believe with Prof. Guyot, that science does already afford great help toward an understanding of the ancient inspired chapter on Cosmogony." And again, "With reference to the introduction of life, science has no speculation; for no experiments have resulted in making from dead matter a living species. We can only say created. God created." And again he says, "They held" (Prof. Agassiz and Guyot) "with the writer, that the development was carried forward by the Creator, and looked upon each successive species as existing by his creative act. God was not only at the head as the source of power, but also in every movement; and creatively in each new step of progress." A writer says

of Stanley, "That his mind is imbued with a reverential belief in an overruling Providence is constantly exhibited in his conversation." "I am not," says Stanley, "what is called superstitious. I believe in God the Creator of the universe. Many forms of belief and various ideas respecting the great mysteries of our being and creation have been suggested to me during my life and its wanderings, but after weighing each and attempting to understand what is unsearchable my greatest comfort has been in peacefully resting firm in the faith of my sires. For all the human glory that surrounds the memory of Darwin and his compeers throughout advanced Europe, I would not abate a jot or tittle of my belief in the Supreme God and the Divine Man called His Son."

One of the ablest opponents of Darwin's views was Prof. Agassiz. To the day of his death he never wavered in defending what he believed to be the biblical view of creation. To him creation was the expression of the thought of God. Each species was a special act of creation; and there was no evidence to show that it ever formed into any other species. It is refreshing to come in contact with such a pious and noble soul. Through his genius and energy he rose to the highest eminence as a naturalist. In some departments of science he probably had not a peer in the world. In his essay on Classification he says, "Darwin's fundamental idea is that species, genera, &c., do not exist at all; and are altogether artificial, differing from one another in degree; all having originated from a successive differentiation of a primordial organic form undergoing necessarily such changes as would at first produce a variety of species, then genera, as the dif-

fences became more extensive and deeper, then families, as the gap widened still further between the groups, until in the end all that diversity was produced which has existed or exists now. Far from agreeing with these views I have on the contrary taken the ground that all the natural divisions in the animal kingdom are primarily distinct, founded upon different categories of character, and that all exist in the same way, that is, as categories of thought embodied in individual living forms.

"The arguments presented by Darwin in favor of a universal derivation from one primary form of all the peculiarities existing among living beings, have not made the slightest impression upon my mind, nor modified in any way the views I have already propounded."

The following appeared from the pen of Agassiz in the *Atlantic Monthly* of January, 1874, a month after his death: "Whatever be the means of preserving and transmitting properties, the types have remained permanent and unchanged in the long succession of years, amid the appearance and disappearance of kinds, the fading away of one species and the coming in of another from the earliest geological periods to the present day."

The views of Darwin have found wide acceptance among a certain class of scientists, or writers on biological science, in Germany and England. In France the authority of Cuvier is still so great at the present day that these views have made but little progress. The same may be said of the United States. Here we have the most weighty names of Agassiz, Dana, Guyot, and in botany, Asa Gray, against the theory.

Darwinism substitutes for design in nature, chance; and for purposive creation fortuitous occurrence. His principles have been applied to the profound problems of the natural and spiritual world; and if they were to prevail it would in one broad sweep revolutionize our knowledge. Because science has made known the operations of natural law in the uniformity of its workings, it has not, therefore, dispensed with the Supreme Ruler, or exiled Him from His universe. We see only the workings of second causes, we do not reach up to the First Cause. We see only the last traces of his footsteps. Behind the curtain the Almighty holds the station of pre-eminence of power. Without in the least depreciating what science has done for man in the sphere of nature, we can with the same confidence in that higher spiritual sphere come to God in prayer and ask Him for life and sustenance and all things.

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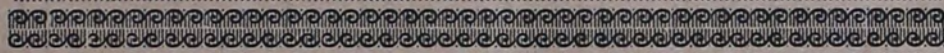


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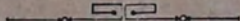
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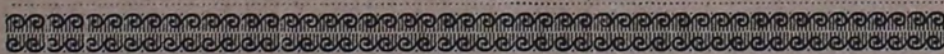
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